

**California Department of Education
School Safety and Violence Prevention Act
Annual Report to the Legislature
(Education Code Section 32228.5)**

Report Summary

Chapter 51, Statutes of 1999 [Assembly Bill 1113 (Florez)], added Article 3.6 (*Education Code*, Sections 32228. to 32228.2) and Article 3.8 (Section 32239.5) to Chapter 2 of Part 19 of the *Education Code*, and established the School Safety and Violence Prevention Act to take effect immediately.

In 1999-2000, pursuant to the Act, funding was allocated to school districts on a formula specified in the statute. Funding was \$10,000 per district, \$5,000 per school, or a per-pupil allocation of approximately \$48 per student enrolled in grades 8 through 12; whichever represented the largest allocation for the school district. County offices of education received \$10,000, \$5,000 per school, or a per-pupil allocation of \$13 per student, whichever represented the largest allocation. In 1999-2000, 878 school districts and 57 county offices of education were applicants for the School Safety and Violence Prevention Act funding.

The focus of the School Safety and Violence Prevention Act is the population enrolled in grades 8 through 12. The areas of emphasis for expenditure include hiring student support services staff and personnel trained in conflict resolution, establishing staff training programs, creating cooperative arrangements with law enforcement agencies, providing on-campus security and communication devices, and implementing other programs that assist in reducing the incidence of violence in schools.

In 1999-2000 school districts and county offices of education spent School Safety and Violence Prevention Act funding within the following categories in descending order:

Personnel, Communications/Infrastructure, Training, Other, Law Enforcement Partnerships.

School Safety and Violence Prevention Act funding has been a much needed and very welcome addition to school districts and county offices of education. Recent incidents of school violence in the United States and California have made school districts critically aware of the safety of their communities. They have greatly increased interest in expanding counseling and student support services and creating violence prevention programs for staff and students.